

REPORT

251
HUM

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(LISTED BELOW)

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

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1. [redacted] the Schkopau (U 52/D 91) Buna plant, no chemical warfare agents are produced in the plant. Poison gases such as chloride, nitrogen, acetylene, and potassium cyanide are processed in the plant. However, these agents are part of the current production of the plant and are required for the manufacture of Buna rubber. Some of these agents are also supplied from other plants, such as the potassium cyanide known as "C3" which comes from the Fischer plant in Leipzig (U 52/R 21) and is used in the "J 75" department of the Buna plant for hardening.
2. Shipments of about 2,000 tons of paraldehyde, a byproduct of Buna production, left the Schkopau Buna plant in March 1951. The Paraxol* (possibly para-dichlorobenzene) factory in Niederlehme (U 53/V 02) near Koenigswusterhausen, which was completely dismantled in 1945, used paraldehyde processed from pentaerythrite ($C(CH_2OH)_4$) for the production of explosives. It is assumed that the same procedure is now being used in the U.S.S.R. This would explain the large shipments of paraldehyde leaving Schkopau. **

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* * Comment: Not further identified.

* * Comment: Pentacrythrite is chemically related to glycerine and is used as drying agent for paintings and in the production of varnishes. Pentacrythrite tetranitrate, abbreviated Nitropenta, is produced by nitrating pentacrythrite. It is a comparatively heat-resistant explosive agent with a detonation speed of more than 8,000 meters per second (sic).

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